

**ENHANCE USER EMPOWERMENT THROUGH INFORMATION
COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY IN ENGINEERING COLLEGE
LIBRARY AT COIMBATORE DISTRICT: A STUDY**

A. RAJESWARY¹ & A. M. VENKATACHALAM²

¹Librarian, Rathinam Technical Campus, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India

²Librarian, K.S.R College of Engineering, Tiruchengode, India

ABSTRACT

ICT has brought extraordinary changes and reconstruction to academic library and information services, user's services. An information infrastructure would provide the networks and standards to allow providers within a community to share information electronically. The respondents have moderate level of location for accessing online journals such as computer center and other places. The respondents have moderate level of location for accessing online journals such as computer center and other places. Therefore, this study aims to investigate and compare the impact of ICT on the library resource in engineering college at Coimbatore district

KEYWORDS: Information Communication Technology (ICT), Users Study, Library Services & E-Resources

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INTRODUCTION

This article addresses that issue by determining the extent to which students use ICT both at college and in their placement and more effectual in library. Colleges have recognized Information and Communication Technology (ICT) as an effective tool in catalyzing the economic activity in efficient governance, and in developing student resource. There is a growing recognition of the newer and wider possibilities that technology presents before the society in the modern times. The evolution of new forms of technologies and imaginative forms of applications of the new and older technologies makes the lives of the People better and more comfortable in several ways.

The study is based on work carried out in five education institutions in Coimbatore district and considers the implications of effectively Integrating ICT into initial student education Academic libraries take all the efforts to maintain their place as the major source of inquiry in the light of fast growing Information and Communication Technology (ICT). Exclusive conventional document oriented, manually operated library systems have transformed into a combination of conventional documents and digital resources as hybrid library systems. The introduction of ICT in academic libraries has widened the frontiers of academic library resources, operation and services and user expectations as well. Presently many libraries in India have provisions to access the same electronic information in multiple ways. In the 1960s and 1970s, librarians were using electronic databases as a part of library services. In the 1980s, libraries started using CD-ROM versions of electronic databases. In 1990s and from 2000 onwards, internet access and consortia approach of journals subscriptions diversified the

availability of ICT. Presently we are living in knowledge society where information is the key item.

LITERATURE REVIEW

A literature review is an essential aspect of investigation. The term “review” means recall of past information or a study. It provides information regarding the methods of experimenting, research techniques, and importance on the related previous studies which will help in the formation of hypotheses for a new study. Information and communication technologies essentially involve the storage and communication of information of the resources available for the study. Thus, the greatest advantage of ICT is its ability to serve as an information tool to circulate and to induce a productive change in the knowledge of a society. The services rendered with the help of ICT are earlier and more valuable.

From the previous studies it was found that library resources in majority of the colleges are in the form of e-resources and e-databases. Nowadays most of the colleges under study have enrolled themselves as the members of a consortium. Well established infrastructure facilities are provided for the libraries to serve their clients effectively.

METHODOLOGY

- **Theoretical Framework**

A sample of 25 Engineering College from Coimbatore District was taken, using of probability sampling method for the study. A questionnaire was administered to collect data from 150 students pursuing different professional courses in different colleges in Coimbatore district. The tools were used for the study are Language Aptitude Test (LAT Error) Data which were analyzed with the help of ‘t’-test, correlation and ANOVA techniques.

- **Secondary Data**

The secondary data was collected from the Engineering College for promoting user participation in ICT based services and jobs. The information about different techniques related to ICTs was also collected through personal interviews with planners, implementations and beneficiaries of these users.

- **Primary Data**

Besides secondary data, the primary data was collected using structured Questionnaire.

Data Analysis

Analysis of data is the ultimate step in research process. For this purpose a total of 200 questionnaires were distributed among engineering college members in Coimbatore district. Out of total 200 questionnaires were disturbed and in that 150 questionnaires responded were collected.

Table 1: Gender Wise Distribution of Respondents

S. No	User Category	Male	Female	No. of Respondents	In Percentage (%)
1.	No. of Respondent	97	53	150	100%

Table 1: shows that 97 Male and 53 Female Members had Respondents in out of 150 total members.

Table 2: Respondent's of ICT Based Services

S. No	ICT based Services	Male	Female	No. of Respondents	In Percentage (%)
1.	Digital Library	28	12	40	27%
2.	Electronic Document Supply	24	14	38	25%
3.	CD- Rom Search facility	16	10	26	17%
4.	E-Based Reference Services	29	17	46	31%
	Total	97	53	150	100%

Table 2 shows that 27% Male and Female members responded for Digital library Services and 25 % Male and Female members are responded for Electronics document supply services are provided in engineering college Library and 17 % of Male and Female members are responded for CD-Ram search facilities are in engineering college library and 31 % that most of the Male and Female members are Responded for E-Based reference services.

Table 3: Respondent's Opinion on to Gather and Use of ICT

S. No	Particulars	Male	Female	No. of Respondents	In Percentage (%)
1.	Easier (I have more time for other tasks)	25	19	44	29.3%
2.	About the same (I spend about the same amount of time on information gathering with or without electronic sources)	31	14	45	30%
3.	More difficult (It takes more time to gather and sort through information)	27	11	38	25.3%
4.	Much more difficult (It more to and sort through information)	14	9	23	15.3%
	Total	97	53	150	100%

Table 3 shows that 29.3% of Male and Female members are responded that is easy for user of ICT Facilities in engineering college Library and maximum 30 % of Male and Female members engineering college spent amount of time on information gathering with or without electronic sources and 25.3 % of both members responded that is more difficult to gather and sort through information and 15.3 % of Male and Female responded that much more difficult.

Table 4: Respondent's Opinion on Types of Training

S. No	Types of Training	Male	Female	No. of Respondents	In Percentage (%)
1.	Use of on-line catalogue	28	15	43	28.7%
2.	Library management software package	26	14	40	26.7%
3.	Internet tools and techniques	21	13	34	22.7%
4.	E-books / E-journals	22	11	33	21.9%
	Total	97	53	150	100%

Table 4 show that 28.7 % most of the Male and Female members in engineering college use of On line catalogue and 26.7 % responded that library management software package and 22.7 % of them responded that Internet tools and Techniques and 21.9 % of them responded that E-books/E-journals for getting information.

Table 5: Respondent's Opinion on Level of Usefulness of ICT Facilities

S. No	Usefulness of ICT Facilities	Male				Female				No. of Respondents	In Percentage (%)
		Very Useful	Useful	Not Useful	Total	Very Useful	Useful	Not Useful	Total		
1.	Telecommunication & its facilities	8	9	4	21	5	6	2	13	34	22.6%
2.	Online database/E-archive/Journals	10	7	3	20	6	3	2	11	31	20.6%
3.	Digitization	7	8	4	19	2	3	1	6	25	16.6 %
4.	Photocopying	4	2	4	10	2	1	2	5	15	9.9%
5.	Internet / Intranet	7	5	2	14	4	4	2	10	24	15.9%
6.	Video conferencing/ Video text / Tele	6	5	2	13	4	2	2	8	21	13.9%
	Total	42	36	19	97	23	19	11	53	150	100%

Table 5 show 22.6% that most of the Male and Female members in engineering college library uses Telecommunication facilities and 20.6 % of them utilities online database, E-archive, journals for getting technical information and 16.6 % of them uses Digitization Resource and 9.9 % of them uses Photocopying Facilities and 15.9% of Male and Female responded that Internet/Intranet Facilities are useful and 13.9 % of them responded that Video conferencing, Video text are useful in provided information in Engineering college library.

Table 6: Level of Satisfaction of the Users with ICT Services

S. No	Satisfaction of the users from ICT Services	Male	Female	No. of Respondents	In Percentage (%)
1.	Fully Satisfied	38	19	57	37.9%
2.	Partially satisfied	26	12	38	25.3%
3.	Uncertain	20	13	33	21.9%
4.	Not satisfied	13	9	22	14.6%
	Total	97	53	150	100%

Table 6 show that 37.9 % that most of the Male and Female members in Engineering College library are fully satisfied and 25.3 % of them are partially satisfied and 21.9% of them uncertain of this ICT services and 14.6% of them not satisfied with this ICT Resource.

USE OF ICT

- Communication technology can be used to impart information, and that in turn will lead to motivation, mobilization and action.
- Information Communications Technologies (ICT) - technologies that enable society to create, collect, consolidate, communicate, manage and process information in multimedia and various digital formats.
- To collect information on the Internet connectivity and its infrastructure.
- To collect information on the sources of funding for the procurement and maintenance of the system and its functioning.
- To get an account of ICT support staff and their soft skills.
- To collect information about the expenditure incurred on ICT.
- To identify ICT strategy and policy.

- To identify the possible barriers to the use of ICT.
- To collect information on the *ICT facilities* with details of current library hardware and software infrastructure along with the information on Library automation regarding the application of ICT for the automation of various library functions and information services.
- To assess ICT infrastructure in rural areas via-a via in urban areas for student empowerment.

CONCLUSIONS

There is a growing trend in the use of ICT in academic libraries of the colleges covered during the period of this study. Significant difference is noticed in various aspects related to the use of ICT, among the engineering college libraries in Coimbatore district. The developments in the Information and Communications Technology in libraries in recent days have increased tremendously which broadened the impact of information resources for efficient and effective services. Even though ICTs have its own technical challenges, it provides services in positive ways.

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